

LENTILS

1. When inspecting decorticated (i.e., seedcoat removed) lentils, do the lentil standards apply or are they considered a “Not Standardized Commodity?”

ANSWER. *Decorticated lentils are a processed product and, as a result, are considered a not standardized commodity. Consequently, they may be inspected for quality factors (e.g., damaged kernels, skinned lentils, etc.), but not graded. Apply the same factor definitions and interpretations to decorticated lentils as are applied to unprocessed lentils.*

2. Are insect chewed lentils considered as damage or weevil damage?

ANSWER. *Damage. Care should be taken not to confuse with chipped/broken lentils.*

3. Are lentils with a dark discolored seedcoat (commonly referred to as rust colored lentils) considered damage?

ANSWER. *The condition which is created in storage (oxidation process) or as a result of high moisture lentils being exposed to the sun/heat and becoming “sunburned” is currently NOT considered damage.*

NOTE: *Do not confuse with Ascochyta blight.*

4. If an applicant requests a determination of test weight, what procedure should be used?

ANSWER. *Test weight determinations should be made before the removal of dockage on a representative portion of sufficient size to overflow the kettle and certified to the nearest tenth of a pound.*

5. How would a lentil sample containing two dead insects grade?

ANSWER. *Distinctly Low Quality. Sample Grade.*

6. If you have a sample of lentils that contains obvious contrasting classes, can the sample be made Good color?

ANSWER. *Yes, provided the overall color of the predominating and contrasting lentils are of a good natural color.*

7. When using the Carter Dockage Tester to determine dockage in Thresher-Run Lentils, what does the material removed by air function as?

ANSWER. *Dockage.*

8. When processing Thresher-Run Lentils, the handbook states that the air should be set to 9. Is it permissible to run Thresher-Run Lentils with the air setting at 6?

ANSWER. *Yes, depending on the model being used. The particular model will dictate the position at which maximum airflow is achieved. For example, with the XT-1, the setting may very well approach 9. For the XT-3, a setting of 6 offers maximum airflow. The important thing to remember is to use the setting that provides the greatest amount of air. Consult your local equipment specialist for guidance, if needed.*

9. How do pods with lentils inside function in a thresher-run sample?

ANSWER. *Dockage.*

10. The chapter for Dockage-Free Lentils does not define the insects which function as weevils or other live insects injurious to stored lentils. Should the USDA-ARS, Agricultural Handbook 500, "Stored-Grain Insects," serve as a reference in making this determination?

ANSWER. *Yes. If two or more live insects are found, consider the Lentils to be "U.S. Sample Grade." One can also view images of insects on the GIPSA website.*

11. Rogue lentils currently only function as Inconspicuous Admixture when inspecting Dockage-Free Lentils. Since "rogue" lentils also meet the definition of Foreign Material should they also function as Foreign Material?

ANSWER. *No. Packers, exporters, and end users do not view seeds that closely mimic the appearance of lentils, such as *Vicia sativa* (commonly known as vetch, mimics, or rogue lentils), as being as detrimental to quality as dockage or foreign material. Hence, the U.S. lentil industry feels that such seeds should not be considered as foreign material, but as a separate factor.*

(Updated 6/29/2006)